clearinghouse that I hope we can put into statute through the Luke and Alex School Safety Act to make it permanent. It has become a resource where schools across the country are now able to, on an ongoing, real-time basis, see whether what they have in place is the highest standard and the most effective. Every time there are improvements, it is updated. It has had a meaningful impact. There are schools across this country that had vulnerabilities they didn't recognize. Those vulnerabilities aren't just about physical hardening of buildings and so forth; it is about identifying and getting ahead of these problems.

Sadly, what we learned from many of these tragedies is that, well before that day, there are clear signs that something is about to happen.

I think one of the things that most struck me is that multiple families told me that as soon as the news came out that this had happened, everyone knew who it was. Without even having heard the name, everyone knew who did it because the signs had been there and they had been missed.

The ability of school districts to now recognize that and get ahead of it is just one of the many innovations that are now in place because of the work of Max and his family in honor of their son Alex and of all those who suffered greatly on that day.

So I think it is important not just to obviously remember the extraordinary pain and horrific events of that moment but also to remember how these brave American families have since that day taken their pain and turned it into action and that today, across this country, many of our schools are better positioned to prevent this from ever happening to anyone else because of what they have done with this tragedy.

I wanted to take this moment today to commemorate and recognize their hard work and the work they and other families are doing not simply to raise awareness but to spur real, concrete action that makes a meaningful difference.

I now want to turn it over to my colleague from Florida, who was Governor on that terrible day and dealt with this all firsthand.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. SHAHEEN). The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, almost 4 years ago, on February 14, 2018, the world witnessed a senseless attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL.

I am proud to join my colleague Senator RUBIO to introduce this resolution which honors the 17 victims of the tragic shooting: Alyssa Alhadeff, Scott Beigel, Martin Duque Anguiano, Nicholas Dworet, Aaron Feis, Jaime Guttenberg, Chris Hixon, Luke Hoyer, Cara Loughran, Gina Montalto, Joaquin Oliver, Alaina Petty, Meadow Pollack, Helena Ramsay, Alex Schachter, Carmen Schentrup, and Peter Wang.

I often think of these innocent lives who were lost way too early. They were sons, daughters, parents, and partners. Some were educators, athletes, musicians; many of them, just kids with a life full of promise ahead of them. My heart breaks knowing that they will never get to pursue their dreams and that their families will always have a piece of their heart missing.

Since that horrific day, I have worked closely with many of the victims' families to ensure no family has to experience that again.

While I was Governor, we passed the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act to make sure our State does everything possible to ensure this does not happen again.

Now as a U.S. Senator, I am fighting for improvements on the Federal level, including the Luke and Alex School Safety Act, named after Luke Hoyer and Alex Schachter, which builds on our work to keep schools safe.

I am also working with my colleagues to pass the bipartisan EAGLES Act, which improves school safety for our students and teachers and provides more resources to law enforcement to prevent future tragedies from happening.

While, unfortunately, we cannot bring back the lives lost on that tragic day nearly 4 years ago, I will always work to honor them and do everything in my power to protect our students and educators and ensure they have a safe environment to learn and succeed.

Madam President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 508, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 508) honoring the memories of the victims of the senseless attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, 2018.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 508) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

FLOOR VOTES

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, I want to start by thanking my friend from the great State of New Hampshire for signing on to a letter I just want to briefly describe and send the letter to the desk.

I send a letter to the desk which has been signed by seven Members of this body, and we expect several more to be added over the next day, if not this evening.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is pretty simple. I was thinking that my mom is one of the few people who probably watches C–SPAN a lot when her son is on the floor. We have so many instances where we have 90 or so Members standing on the floor, looking at a door to the left or the right or the rear, wondering where that last Senator is who is holding the vote open.

So, Mom, when I am on the floor and looking that way, it is because we have a Member who may be coming to vote or maybe not.

What we have here is a situation where any one Member is able to hold the vote open. Out of respect for that Member—technically, the vote could be called after the time is called, but it is not out of respect for our Members.

So what I have simply done is circulate with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and say: How about this as a proposition: If you are the last Member to vote and your vote will not change the outcome, then instruct the desk and the Presiding Officer to simply call the vote.

We had nearly 80 Members already agree that is a reasonable proposition, and every one of those Members has an opportunity on an exception basis to say: No, this vote is important to me; you have to hold it open.

They could be caught in traffic. They could be coming from the airport—any number of valid reasons.

There was a vote on this this afternoon, and the reason I missed that vote was I am a ranking member of a subcommittee, and the witnesses were just about to testify. I could have held the vote open or I could have been rude to the witnesses and left when they prepared the testimony. I felt like it was more important to hear their testimony. That vote, by the way, passed by a huge margin. That is an example where I am perfectly happy to show respect to my colleagues, not hold the vote open, and move on.

Tonight, we are going to have several votes stacked up, and invariably, we may have someone come in—I don't think it is malicious, but they are unintentionally holding up the proceedings of this body. I think if we simply have them, their scheduler, their chief of staff, or anyone in their office simply say ''The boss has to vote on this bill,'' then they could call the cloakroom, and the vote could be held open, which is a tradition here.

I want to thank Senator SHAHEEN, the Presiding Officer. I want to thank the 77 people who have signed on to this letter just to show that we want to do the work of the people, we want to do it in a timely manner, and we want